

Message Text

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64

ORIGIN NEA-12

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DRAFTED BY NEA/P:JEBRIGGS

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S/PRS - MR. KING (INFO)

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS STATE 055689

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: DEPARTMENT PRESS BRIEFING

FOR YOUR INFORMATION AND GUIDANCE FOLLOWING IS PARTIAL

EXCERPT FROM DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN'S PRESS BRIEFING

MARCH 20, 1974:

QUOTE: Q. AMBASSADOR KAUL OF THE INDIAN EMBASSY MET WITH
THE SECRETARY YESTERDAY. CAN YOU SAY ANYTHING ABOUT THAT
MEETING?

A. THEY HAD LUNCH TOGETHER, BUT I HAVE HEARD NOTHING FROM
IT. IF THERE IS ANYTHING I CAN GET, I WILL CERTAINLY PASS
IT ON TO YOU.

Q. THERE IS SOME MENTION IN THE INDIAN PRESS TO THE EFFECT
THAT THE SECRETARY IS PLANNING A TRIP THERE IN MAY OR JUNE.
IS THERE ANY CONFIRMATION OF THAT?

A. NO. AS YOU KNOW, HE HAS HAD AN INTEREST AND HOPED TO GO
TO INDIA. BUT AT THE PRESENT TIME, THE SITUATION IS JUST
AS IT WAS THE LAST TIME I SPOKE, SOME TIME AGO -- NO FIRM
PLANS RIGHT NOW.

Q. GOING BACK TO THE LUNCHEON MEETING WITH KAUL, HAS
THERE BEEN A PROTEST FROM THE INDIAN GOVERNMENT NOW ON
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DIEGO GARCIA?

A. I AM NOT AWARE OF ANY FORMAL COMMUNICATION ON THAT SUBJECT.

Q. INFORMAL?

A. WE KNOW THERE HAVE BEEN INFORMAL COMMENTS ON IT. END QUOTE. KISSINGER

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